

First, it should be recognized that claims 1 and 4 are directed to a roller turn roller in combination with a pair of spaced mounting bars. As discussed in the background of the invention in paragraph 0002 of the specification, roller turn rollers are utilized in overhead power and free, inverted power and free and monorail conveyor systems to control and guide the moving components of the conveyor around curves or turns and prevent lateral displacement of such components from the intended course. Constant operation under repeated, high impact forces subject the rollers and accompanying bearings to the high stress of a very unfriendly environment. A failure of a roller results in down time during which the conveyor system is immobile and useless.


The above is in contrast to prior art such as represented by the Hooper patent which is directed to an idler roll assembly for a conveyor belt. Hooper is concerned with securing an idler roll cylinder to the roll heads mounted within the ends of the cylinder in the low stress environment of a belt conveyor application.

Turning to the language of the claims, claim 1 sets forth a combination that is neither shown nor suggested by Hooper. For example, claim 1 calls for "a continuous axle tube having opposed ends and defining a central axis of rotation," and further calls for "a fastener extending across said mounting bars through said axle tube to mount the roller turn roller between the bars." These claim elements are simply not present in the Hooper reference or suggested thereby. There is no axle tube in Hooper. A shaft 17 extends through the roll 10 and is provided with a threaded end portion 18 for receiving a nut 19. There is no fastener or bolt in Hooper that extends across a pair of spaced mounting bars through an axle tube to mount a roller

turn roller between the bars, nor is such an arrangement or function suggested by the Hooper reference.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 1 and 4, together with the previously allowed or allowable claims 2, 3, 5 and 6 when this application is next reached for attention.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D. A. N. Chase", is written over a horizontal line.

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